

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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LACLEDE, - - - MISSOURI.

The Girls Who Are Snapped Up.

All young men are not silly, and apt to be fascinated by a pretty face when more enduring charms are lacking. Marriage is a serious affair, and thus they contemplate it when looking for a wife. It is no wonder, then, says the New York Weekly, that the girls described below are the first to be snapped up when they appear in the matrimonial market: The girl who is her mother's right hand in household matters, and who is not above taking an interest in the most trivial things in connection with household duties. The girl who is a bright, entertaining companion, and who has ever a kind word and pleasant smile for those around. The girl who is always neatly dressed, no matter if with inexpensive materials, and who never dresses loudly or in questionable taste. The girl who can adapt herself to any society, and who never puts on airs and who would scorn to do an action of which all the world might not know. The girl who, in an emergency, can turn her hand to anything, from cooking the family dinner to retrimming an old hat. The girl who is unselfish enough to give up some pleasure of her own to benefit another, and does not consider herself aggrieved at having to do so. The girl who can talk of more important things than dress or the last new play, and who can listen intelligently when deeper subjects are introduced.

Belgium and the Congo.

The latest turn in Congo affairs is the decision of the special commission of the Belgian chamber, by vote of nine to seven, not to interfere with the king's control of the budget of the proposed African colony. The world must, then, hereafter hold Belgium itself and its people responsible for the misgovernment attributed to Leopold, declares the Boston Transcript. It is evident that public opinion regarding this "open sore of modern civilization" must be concentrated rather upon the supine community which tolerates a money-making king in his atrocious exploitation of Africa. *It is not upon the case-hardened old sinner himself.* Still, as shown by the size of the minority of the commission in this vote, there is a large and respectable opposition to the scandalous commercialism which has made the name Congo Free State a sinister joke and fraud.

The president of the State Agricultural college of North Carolina is a real reformer. He advised the students to substitute man-to-man fighting in the open, for hazing, and the students have taken up the system with enthusiasm. There have already been encounters with from 60 to 75 men on each side, with some broken noses and numerous black eyes, but that is vastly better, remarks the Indianapolis Star, than having a crowd jump on one unfortunate and maltreat him. If college classes wish to demonstrate their physical prowess, what can be fairer than an open, fair fight, on equal terms? And that is American, for this country takes no stock in sneaking, cowardly or underhand methods.

The most valuable opal in the world is to be seen in the imperial cabinet at Vienna. Another, worn by the Empress Josephine, known as the "Burning of Troy," which only is a little less magnificent, is in the possession of the marchioness of Butte. How the idea arose in the first instance that "the broken rainbow of the unlucky opal" brought ill luck it is not easy to tell. Some allege that the word is derived from the Greek for an eye, that the gem shares the evil influence of a peacock's feather and acts as a spy in the house; others that the opal only got its reputation after Sir Walter Scott had connected it with bad luck in "Anne of Geierstein."

An incident which shows how secure women have made their place in the industrial structure of the times has lately occurred in Rhode Island. A woman who had worked for a single great manufacturing concern for 35 years was discharged for causes which her fellow workers, men as well as women, believed to be unjust. The whole power of the trade union, involving all the 5,000 employees, of both sexes, was brought to bear, to secure a fair hearing for this one working woman.

SANTA—"RUN ALONG LITTLE BOY! I'M BUSY!"



ENTOMBED IN THE HILLS

Explosion Imprisons 380 Men in West Virginia Mine.

But Little Hope of Rescue is Entertained—Five Escaped Alive—America's Greatest Disaster.

Monongah, W. Va.—Six charred bodies lying in the improvised morgue, five badly injured men and 380 men imprisoned by tons of coal, rock and mine debris in the depths of the hills surrounding this mining town, with the chances all against a single one of them being alive was the most accurate summary obtainable Friday night of the results of a mine explosion which in all probability was attended by greater loss of life than any former disaster in the history of the bituminous coal mining industry of America.

The explosion occurred shortly after 10 o'clock Friday after the full force of 500 men had gone to work in the two mines affected. These mines are numbers 6 and 8 of the Consolidated Coal company, located on opposite sides of the West Fork of the river, at this place, but merged in their underground workings by a heading and on the surface by a great steel tippie and bridge.

The finding of the six bodies and the five dying men is the only reward for strenuous and uninterrupted work on the part of large rescuing forces that immediately set to work at every possible point.

At 11 o'clock Friday the list of employees of mines Nos. 6 and 8, at Monongah, had been checked off, showing that 380 were in the two mines when the explosion occurred.

Of these, six have been brought to the surface dead and five escaped through air shafts. The latter five are in the miners' hospital here, with serious injuries and in a precarious condition.

Neither entry has been opened to the real workings and the indications are that a majority, if not all, caught in the mine are dead.

San Francisco Bankers in Trouble.
San Francisco, Cal.—James Dalzell Brown, vice-president and general manager of the California Safe Deposit and Trust company has been joined in jail by W. J. Barnett, director of the defunct National Bank and originator of many costly ventures which brought ruin to the trust company. The two men are now prisoners at the city prison. At the same time President David F. Walker, of the wrecked bank, is under arrest at Santa Barbara, and will be brought back to San Francisco under guard. All three men are charged with the embezzling of stock and bonds of the Colton estate.

Railroad Officers Consolidate.
St. Louis, Mo.—The Rock Island and the Frisco have worked out plans for abolishing separate freight soliciting offices at St. Louis, Chicago, Kansas City, Memphis, Oklahoma City, Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston and Wichita. Similar plans will affect the passenger offices at Kansas City, Wichita and Oklahoma City.

"Jim Crow" Bill Passed Senate.
Guthrie, Ok.—The "Jim Crow" bill passed the senate Friday afternoon by a vote of 36 ayes, 3 nays, 4 absentees and 1 excused. The bill will become effective in 60 days after being signed by the governor.

LIVE STOCK CONVENTION.

The Call Says Growers Are Facing Serious Losses Because of the Financial Flurry.

Denver, Col.—The call for the 11th annual convention of the American National Live Stock association, to be held in this city January 21 and 22, 1908, was issued Tuesday.

In part the call says: "Our convention at this time carries with it more than passing importance. This country has suddenly had a disastrous experience in its financial centers that has destroyed values and so shattered public confidence as to cause the currency to almost disappear. Over speculation, reckless financing and wasteful extravagance are among the main causes for this crisis. Stock growers are facing serious losses, where but a month ago fair profits were promised, and they are now being forced to accept greatly reduced prices for their live stock to possibly offset losses and money shortages of the financial institutions of some large over-capitalized corporations, that, on short time money, have undertaken to capture and control every market, avenue of transportation and territory."

A "Closed" Sunday for Topeka.
Topeka, Kan.—Mayor Wm. Green Tuesday notified Chief of Police Eaton that nothing but the necessities of life should be sold in Topeka hereafter on Sundays beginning December 15. The single exception made is in favor of the Sunday newspaper, sold on the streets. Grocery stores, news stands and confectionery stores must close. No hotels may sell cigars. Drug stores will be allowed to remain open but nothing but medicines necessary for sickness shall be dispensed. Sunday theaters will not be affected as the city now has a test case before the supreme court.

Police Charged With Robbery.
Muskogee, Ok.—Chief of Police John A. Suggs, and Night Policeman Lewis Woods, of Fort Gibson, six miles north of this city, are under arrest charged with robbing the post-office at Fort Gibson on the night of November 22, obtaining \$400 in cash. The arrest was made by Mayor Rand Lee after an investigation of the crime. The two prisoners were bound over to the grand jury, each under a bond of \$1,000.

New York Must Still Be Good.
New York.—After a heated debate, a proposed ordinance removing the ban from Sunday concerts and other forms of mild entertainment on the first day of the week was referred by the board of aldermen Tuesday to the committee on laws and legislation and New York is promised another "blue" Sabbath as the board will not meet again until next Tuesday.

Kansas City Bank Reopens.
Kansas City.—The Stock Yards Bank of Commerce, which closed when the National Bank of Commerce closed its doors, reopened Tuesday morning. It has \$80,000 in cash and sight exchange, against \$120,000 deposits and is prepared to resume business in a normal way.

To Open Goldfield Mines.
Goldfield, Nev.—The mines of Goldfield are to be reopened on Thursday next. The wage scale is to be reduced. No member of the Western Federation will be given employment. Men will be brought here to the number of 500 to take the places of the strikers, meanwhile.

SWEDEN'S KING IS DEAD.

The Venerable Monarch Passed Peacefully Away After a Long Illness—Succeeded by His Son.

Stockholm.—Oscar II, king of Sweden, died at 9:10 o'clock Sunday morning. The death of the venerable monarch occurred in the royal apartment of the palace, where, surrounded by the members of his family, including the aged queen, Sophia, and the Crown Prince, Oscar Gustave, and high ministers of state, the inevitable end had been awaited, while outside the palace great crowds stood with bowed heads and tearful eyes long after the announcement came of the death of their well-loved sovereign. The whole country is bowed with grief, for King Oscar was something more than a ruler of his people and had endeared himself to them as an intimate and personal friend. When the flag on the palace was dipped to half mast there was a moan of anguish from the assembled multitude and many of them cried "Our Dear Old King is dead."

The succession to the throne of Sweden now passes to Oscar Gustave Adolphe, duke of Verland, the oldest son of the late king. At a meeting of the council of state Sunday afternoon the new king took the oath of allegiance under the title of Gustave V, and adopted the motto "With the people for the fatherland." The princes then took the oath of allegiance and the new monarch accepted the homage of the state officials.

The last hours of the expiring monarch were passed in unconsciousness and up to the end he gave no sign of recognizing those about him.

Found Rifles at Goldfield.

Goldfield, Nev.—Captain Sage, of the Consolidated Mines company, detective patrol, reported Saturday night that he had seized 100 rifles that had been cached presumably by the union miners within a short distance of Goldfield. This is presumed to be a part of the cache of arms and ammunition which the miners are represented to have collected during the last few days.

Only Half the Bonds Sold.

Washington.—The secretary of the treasury has accepted bids for the Panama canal bonds to the amount of \$25,000,000. The average price of all the bids accepted is \$103. Under the terms of the law and the secretary's acceptance of these bids, the allotments of bonds to individuals and institutions will be confined to the small subscriptions from \$10,000 down to \$20.

Troops Sent to Goldfield.

San Francisco, Cal.—Five companies of the 22nd infantry, stationed at Fort McDowell, in this city, and four companies of the same regiment at Monterey, were dispatched to Goldfield, Nev., Friday by Brig. Gen. Fred Funston, commanding the Department of California, in compliance with orders received from the war department late Thursday night.

Secretary Taft in Berlin.

Berlin.—Secretary of War Taft and the members of his party arrived Friday evening from Russia, and late Friday night after attending a reception in his honor, the secretary and his son departed for Hamburg and Cuxhaven, where Saturday they will embark on the steamer President Grant for New York.

Date for G. A. R. Encampment.

Toledo, O.—At a meeting of the national executive committee of the Grand Army of Republic here Tuesday the date of the national encampment of the G. A. R. to be held here next year, was set for August 31 until September 7.

To Protect National Banks.

Washington.—Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, Monday introduced a bill making it a misdemeanor to publish an untrue or derogatory statement about a national bank and penalizing such an act by fine or imprisonment.

Formally Elected Senators.

Guthrie, Ok.—The legislature voted for United States senators Tuesday afternoon with the following result: Senate, Gore and Owens, (dem.) 39; Jones and Douglas, (rep.) 4. House, Gore and Owens, 89; Jones and Douglas, 18.

Favor the Roosevelt Policy.

Jacksonville, Fla.—The Florida republican committee Tuesday adopted resolutions pledging the party to send delegates to the National convention to vote for a nominee who stands for the continuance of the Roosevelt policy.

Gen. Hamilton Dead.

Tarrytown, N. Y.—Major General Alexander Hamilton, grandson of Alexander Hamilton, secretary of the treasury under George Washington, died at his home here Tuesday at the age of 92 years.

HE WANTS NO THIRD TERM

President Roosevelt Forcibly Reasserts Former Announcement.

He Says That Under No Circumstances Will He Seek or Accept Another Nomination.

Washington.—President Roosevelt will not be a candidate for a third term. All doubt on this point was Wednesday night dispelled by the authoritative statement from the White house that Mr. Roosevelt still adheres to the declaration of renunciation made on the night of the election three years ago. In the statement issued Wednesday night, President Roosevelt says he has not changed and shall not change the decision delivered to the American people in 1904.

It appears that President Roosevelt had been awaiting the call for the republican national convention to afford the proper opportunity for making his position clear and unmistakable, thus leaving the field clear for Fairbanks, Taft, Cannon, Knox, Foraker and other declared or receptive candidates for the republican nomination. The president's statement follows:

"On the night after election I made the following announcement: 'I am deeply sensible of the honor done me by the American people in thus expressing their confidence in what I have done and have tried to do. I appreciate to the full the solemn responsibility this confidence imposes upon me, and I shall do all that in my power lies not to forfeit it. On the 4th of March next I shall have served three and a half years and this three and a half years, constitute my first term. The wise custom which limits the president to two terms regards the substance and not the form, and under no circumstances will I be a candidate for or accept another nomination.'

"I have not changed and shall not change the decision thus announced."

Senator Davis Attacked Trusts.

Washington.—Passionate oratory marked the proceedings of the senate Wednesday. Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas, who, when elected, declared that he would attack the trusts immediately after taking his seat, fulfilled his promise, although he was a few days late in doing so. The speech was filled with sensational declarations and was given with that vigor for which the Arkansas senator is famous in his own state. Quaint phrasing, pointed denunciations, and evidences of intense emotion characterized his remarks. He was given a careful hearing by senators and the galleries were well filled throughout the time he held the floor. Beginning shortly before 1 o'clock he spoke for a little more than an hour. At the close of the speech the senate went into executive session and at 2:10 o'clock adjourned. The house was not in session.

Driving Saloons From Massachusetts.

Boston, Mass.—All but one of the 354 cities and towns of the state have gone on record on the question of permitting the sale of intoxicating liquors, and tabulations show a no license majority in Massachusetts of over 13,000. The majority this year is the largest in the history of the state. License by this year's elections is now favored in 14 cities and 72 towns, while prohibition prevails in 18 cities and 249 towns.

To Get Facts at Goldfield.

Washington.—Assistant Secretary Murray of the department of commerce and labor, Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor, and Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations left Washington at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon for Goldfield, Nev., to make a thorough investigation of the trouble between miners and mine operators at that place.

An Engineer 40 Years.

Topeka, Kan.—H. G. Rust, one of the oldest engineers in the West, died at his home here Wednesday of brights disease, at the age of 67 years. For 20 years "Dad" Rust has been running a locomotive over the Santa Fe lines. For 20 years previous to this he had been with the B. & O. and other southern railroads.

He Served in Black Hawk War.

Council Bluffs, Ia.—John Busha, aged 114 years, died Tuesday night at Edmundson hospital, where he was taken Monday. Busha took part in the Black Hawk war in 1832. He has been blind and practically helpless for 15 years.

Nominations Confirmed.

Washington.—The senate Wednesday confirmed the nomination of the Isthmian canal commissioners of Frank Pierce of Utah to be assistant secretary of the interior and of more than 200 other officials, mostly postmasters.